

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particular point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 4, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,195,149 to Kodera et al.

Claims 8, 9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,864,947 to Shiraishi.

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,195,149 to Kodera et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,855 to Nakahara et al.

Claims 10 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,864,947 to Shiraishi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,855 to Nakahara et al.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Claims 1, 6-9, 11, and 12 have been amended.

New claims 13-15 have been added. No new matter has been entered.

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particular point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, claims 1 and 8 were rejected for allegedly being indefinite because Figures 3A and 3B only show two mother substrates 30 and 31 while claims 1 and 8 recite four substrates all together. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

First, Applicants respectfully submit that it is clearly explained in the specification that a plurality of upper and lower substrates are formed on a pair of mother glass substrates (see for example, paragraphs [0011], [0040], [0050] and [0059]). As such, the Specification is clear as to what constitutes first and second substrates on first and second mother substrates as claimed in claims 1 and 8. However, in the interest of furthering prosecution, independent claims 1 and 8 have been amended to recite that the first and second mother substrates have formed there on “a plurality of upper liquid crystal display panel units having at least two different sizes and a plurality of lower liquid crystal display panel units having at least two different sizes.” This amendment is fully supported by Figure 5 and its corresponding text in the Specification as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter has been entered. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are definite, and Applicants respectfully request that the §112, second paragraph rejection be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 4, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,195,149 to Kodera et al. This rejection under §102 is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*. 814 F.2d 628, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). See also M.P.E.P. §2131. Claim 1, as amended, recites among other things, “forming a plurality of upper liquid crystal display panel units having at least two different sizes and a plurality of lower liquid crystal display panel sections having at least two different sizes... to form at least first and second liquid crystal display panel units... and separating the first and second liquid crystal display panel units into individual liquid crystal display panels, wherein the first liquid crystal display panel unit is larger than the second crystal display panel unit.” (emphasis added) Kodera et al. does not teach such a feature. In Kodera et al., all the liquid crystal display panels are shown of “equal size” (e.g., Figs. 13-18, Figs. 28-31). The alleged teachings of first and second substrates of different sizes as indicated in the Office Action (i.e., Fig. 13: 1b and 19; Fig. 15: 4b and 29) are referring to liquid crystal panel substrates (1b, 4b) and dummy glass substrates (19 and 29). Therefore, when separated, the liquid crystal panels of Kodera et al. are of equal size. Accordingly, Kodera et al. does not teach or suggest “forming a plurality of upper liquid crystal display panel units having at least two different sizes and a plurality of lower liquid crystal

display panel sections having at least two different sizes... to form at least first and second liquid crystal display panel units... and separating the first and second liquid crystal display panel units into individual liquid crystal display panels, wherein the first liquid crystal display panel unit is larger than the second crystal display panel unit.” (emphasis added)

Therefore, for at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Kodera et al. does not anticipate claim 1. Claims 4 and 6 depend from claim 1 and therefore are not anticipated by Kodera et al. for at least the reasons specified above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the §102 rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 8, 9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,864,947 to Shiraishi. This rejection under §102 is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 8, as amended, recites among other things “forming a plurality of upper liquid crystal panel units having at least two different sizes on a first mother substrate and a plurality of lower liquid crystal display panel units having at least two different sizes on a second mother substrate... to form at least first and second liquid crystal display panel units... and separating the first and second liquid crystal display panel units from the attached mother substrates into individual liquid crystal display panel units having different sizes.” (emphasis added) Shiraishi does not teach such a feature. In Shiraishi, all the liquid crystal display panels are shown of “equal size” (e.g., Figs. 7A, 8A). The alleged teachings of first and second substrates of different sizes as indicated in the Office Action (i.e., Fig. 7A: 20a and 31) are referring to the display area

(20a) and terminal portions (31) of the liquid crystal panel substrates. Once separated, each liquid crystal display units of Shiraishi are shown of equal size. Accordingly, Shiraishi does not teach or suggest “forming a plurality of upper liquid crystal panel units having at least two different sizes on a first mother substrate and a plurality of lower liquid crystal display panel units having at least two different sizes on a second mother substrate... to form at least first and second liquid crystal display panel units... and separating the first and second liquid crystal display panel units from the attached mother substrates into individual liquid crystal display panel units having different sizes.” (emphasis added)

Therefore, for at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Shiraishi does not anticipate claim 8. Claims 9 and 11 depend from claim 8 and therefore are not anticipated by Shiraishi for at least the reasons specified above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the §102 rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,195,149 to Kodera et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,855 to Nakahara et al., and claims 10 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,864,947 to Shiraishi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,855 to Nakahara et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7 all depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1. As explained above, Kodera et al. does not teach, among other things, “forming a plurality of upper liquid crystal display panel units having at least two different sizes and a plurality of lower liquid crystal display panel sections having at least two different sizes... to form at least first and second liquid crystal display panel units... and separating the first and second liquid crystal display panel units into individual liquid crystal display panels, wherein the first liquid crystal display panel unit is larger than the second crystal display panel unit.” (emphasis added) Nakahara et al. does not cure this deficiency as all of the liquid crystal display panel substrates shown in Nakahara et al. are all of equal sizes.

Similarly, claims 10 and 12 depend from claim 8. As explained above, Shiraishi does not teach, among other things, “forming a plurality of upper liquid crystal panel units having at least two different sizes on a first mother substrate and a plurality of lower liquid crystal display panel units having at least two different sizes on a second mother substrate... to form at least first and second liquid crystal display panel units... and separating the first and second liquid crystal display panel units from the attached mother substrates into individual liquid crystal display panel units having different sizes.” (emphasis added) Nakahara et al. does not cure this deficiency as all of the liquid crystal display panel substrates shown in Nakahara et al. are all of equal sizes.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of either Kodera et al. or Shiraishi with Nakahara et al. still fails to teach or suggest the method of fabricating a liquid

crystal display panel as recited claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 10 and 12 for at least the reasons specified above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the §103 rejection be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claims 13-15 have been added to more fully recite that the Applicants regard as the invention. No new matter has been entered as these claims are supported by Figures 5, 7A, and 7B as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 13-15 are also allowable over the art of record.

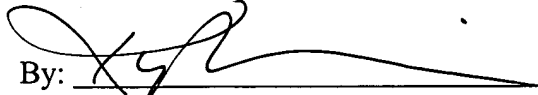
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: June 22, 2005

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IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace Figure 2 with the enclosed replacement sheet for the same. In particular, Figure 2 has been amended to correct “Upeer” to --Upper-- in box “st1.” As such, Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.